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Applicant: P. A. Billing-Medel, *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/099,823

Filed: June 19, 1998

For: REAGENTS AND METHODS USEFUL
FOR DETECTING DISEASES OF THE
BREAST

Examiner: J. Goldberg

Group Art Unit: 1655

Attorney Docket No.: 6120.US.P1

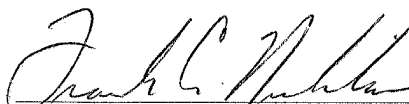
Date: August 15, 2001

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FRANK C. NICHOLAS

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box CPA
Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is responsive to the Advisory Action dated May 24, 2001. In addition, because the Amendment After Final filed on May 15, 2001 was not entered, this is also responsive to the Office action dated September 14, 2000.

A Notice of Appeal was filed on January 15, 2001. Claims 1-16, 30, 33, 35, 38-42 and 45-49 are currently under examination. A two-month extension of time was previously submitted, extending the time to respond from March 15, 2001 to May 15, 2001. A further three-month extension of time accompanies this response, extending the time to respond from May 15, 2001 to August 15, 2001.